



# Mole Valley Conservative Association's Newsletter

Issue 38; July 2010

## Welcoming Note

Welcome to the July issue of the Mole Valley Conservative Association's Newsletter.

To unsubscribe to this newsletter, please contact us through the website 'Contact us' page with a subject line of 'unsubscribe'.

Our aim is to provide you with a monthly update on the work of the Conservative Association and your elected representatives. We would value your feedback or comments.

We hope you enjoy reading the July issue.

## A word from the Chair

### A Coalition



When I read of the activities of the Liberal Democrats in Mole Valley and in Guildford I have to re-read the daily newspapers to reaffirm that in Westminster there is a Coalition Government.

My dictionary defines a political coalition as a 'temporary combination between parties retaining distinctive principles' – and how!

When I read of the antics of Chris Huhne – particularly with his less than half hearted response to Nuclear Energy (does he not wonder why windmills historically gave way to other energy sources) then we know who we can blame in 2016 for power cuts, unless the French come to our aid with their own nuclear plants.

Then there is the man with the chip from Twickenham. Vince Cable came up with his ideas for good graduates to pick up our extra tax burden, to pay for those who chose to study sociology or media studies at university. The purpose of any loan is to fund people through college not to pay for others. Mr Cable's solution would see the good graduates leave these shores as soon as possible after graduation. Mr Cable is also acting as a TV pundit by continuing to moan about banks: He wants punitive taxes which would make it more difficult to increase capital and therefore unable to increase lending. Some of the coalition seems to fit easily together but the likes of Huhne and Cable are not the type of Ministers I voted for at the General Election, but are at least better than Brown and Harman.

A Surrey wide survey by the Surrey Economic Partnership has come up with some interesting facts. In Surrey there are now fewer county residents of working age - as compared to 10 years ago. The percentage of the employed working in London and living in Surrey totals 23% of the total. One third of the Surrey working population is in banking, finance, insurance and I read that 24% are in public administration, education and health.

Another fact that is very relevant is that there are 61,000 work places in Surrey; 88% employ 10 or fewer persons. Why, therefore, is Surrey excluded from the National Insurance 'holiday' for the first year so that employers can have every chance to establish new businesses?

The A.V. referendum, which is now destined for 5<sup>th</sup> May 2011 – we may need to have referenda on Europe and Scotland but we do not need a referendum on the Alternative Vote, particularly clashing



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with elections in Guildford and Mole Valley – when there are no many more important matters of State to concern us.

Let us now wonder how the dictionary – which describes coalition so well, would define ‘temporary’?

**Mr Colin Crispin**  
**Chairman, Mole Valley Conservative Association**

## News from the House of Commons

### Committee Memberships



Since the General Election, MPs have been busy putting themselves forward for membership of various Select Committees.

I am pleased to have become a member of the following Commission and Committees and look forward to working with them and making a positive contribution.

#### House of Commons Commission

The Commission was established by the House of Commons (Administration) Act in 1978 and its responsibilities include:

- appointing staff of the House
- preparing and laying before the House the Estimates for the House of Commons Service
- allocating functions to House departments
- keeping staff pay and conditions broadly in line with those of the Civil Service.

#### Standards and Privileges Committee

This Committee was appointed by the House of Commons to oversee the work of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards and to consider any matter relating to the conduct of Members.

#### Finance and Services Committee

The Committee prepares the Estimates for the House of Commons budget for submission to the House of Commons Commission.

#### Security Committee

The Joint Committee on Security is an advisory committee of members of both Houses appointed by Mr Speaker and the House Committee of the House of Lords to make recommendations to Mr Speaker and the Lord Speaker on the security of the Parliamentary Estate.

**Sir Paul Beresford**  
**Member of Parliament for Mole Valley**



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## Report from Mole Valley District Council

### Painting the Town White?



Local Mole Valley Conservative Councillors were aghast to see lots of white paint, randomly spread across roads in Dorking.

The paint was quickly cleared up by council workers, so that cars and other vehicles did not spread it further, but then the search began to find out how it came to be spread over the roads...

Cllr James Friend, Leader of the Council says "As soon as I was told about the issue, I took a look at it in the High Street and realised that there was a chance the CCTV system might have captured just how the paint got all over the High Street. A very prompt response from the local police team identified that at 8:20am that morning, the culprit was a Wickes lorry driving through the town. I have asked Council officers to contact Wickes who are a mainstay retailer within Dorking and whom I know are always keen to be part of the community. I am sure that they will be eager to put the situation right and not leave local tax payers to pick up any of the clean up bill."

Chris Reynolds, Conservative Portfolio Holder for the Environment and Sustainability added: "Protecting the environment and character of Mole Valley is a key priority for local Conservative Councillors and this includes being quick off the mark to resolve issues like this using innovative ways to find out what happened and to deliver value for money by working with those who caused it to clean it up".

### **Cllr Chris Hunt**

**Ashted Village Ward, Mole Valley District Council**

**Mole Valley Conservative Councillors new Communications Officer**



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## Report from Guildford Borough Council

### Guildford House



The Borough Council has confirmed that the town's art gallery at Guildford House will not be relocated, which has proved to be a popular decision for the gallery's many supporters.

Back in March, I reported that the council was considering relocating the town's art gallery and Tourist Information Centre (TIC) into another council owned building at 170 High Street (the old Thorpe's bookshop). This was in a bid to save the rental costs of the existing TIC. Guildford House could also have been rented out to a commercial operator, which was not a popular proposal among Guildford residents.

However, it has now been decided that the TIC will be relocated in Guildford House instead, while preserving the gallery space. This has delighted supporters of the gallery and enables the council to deliver a more cost effective service.

There was more good news when we held the Conservative seat of Pirbright. The untimely death of Mike Nevins, who was the Borough Councillor for Pirbright and County Councillor for Worplesdon had resulted in a double by-election. The County seat of Worplesdon was also retained, which augurs well for next year's Borough elections, as the Worplesdon Borough Council ward is currently held by three Liberal Democrats.

**Cllr Andrew French**  
**Deputy Leader, Guildford Borough Council**



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## Feature Article

### Corporate Support for the Coalition Government



A communications company recently commissioned the polling company ComRes to conduct research into how the new Government was viewed by businesses.

Between 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> July, the poll asked 136 business leaders on their opinions about the Coalition Government, the Chancellor and the Emergency Budget and the Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition.

The key highlights of the results were as follows:

- 68% believe that David Cameron is performing well or very well as Prime Minister and only 4% saying he is performing badly or very badly;
- 44% believe that the coalition government will remain in office for a full five-year term with a further 13% believing it will last four years. 24% believing it will last less than two years;
- 53% believe the Budget has improved business confidence in the UK with 24% believing that it had reduced confidence.
- 51% of those that expressed a preference believe that, of the five Labour leadership candidates, David Miliband would pose the greatest threat to the coalition.
- More than 70% believe that George Osborne understands the needs of business, has the right ideas about managing the economy and will be a better chancellor than his predecessor.
- 40% believe that all government departments should contribute to spending cuts with only 38% believing health spending should be ring-fenced and 15% believing international development should be protected.



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## News in brief

### Recess dates announced



The Summer Recess dates have been announced by Sir George Young MP, the Leader of the House of Commons. The House will rise on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> July and return on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September.

Then, in order to allow Members of Parliament to attend the three Party Conferences, the House will rise again on 16<sup>th</sup> September and return on 11<sup>th</sup> October.